

THE POSSIBILITIES OF THE INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION IN THE EUROPE.

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Abstract *In the light of future involvement of students in work at the industrial companies it seems almost inevitable for them to become familiarized with a daily work at these companies, not only through visits or through specialized lectures. In many cases, the students have a rather vague idea of „an usual working day“ of employees at an industrial enterprise and the students ideas may greatly differ from the reality.*

Moreover, based on our experience the utilization of measuring equipment used in a daily practice, not only at the University's laboratories seems very important and it offers our students to carry out the measurements on real power generation units. However, this fact brings problems in the connection with the organisation of the course of studies and employment at the industrial company.

The support of such collaboration art is very important for both – the Universities and praxis.

Index Terms *benefit of the collaboration, support of student exchange, praxis*

ON THE BEGIN

The collaboration between Universities and praxis is one of the important point in the education cycle. The students have opportunity to find new solution of their problems. In the light of future involvement of students in work at the industrial companies it seems almost inevitable for them to become familiarized with a daily work at these companies, not only through visits or through specialized lectures. In many cases, the students have a rather vague idea of „an usual working day“ of employees at an industrial enterprise and the students ideas may greatly differ from the reality.

Moreover, based on our experience the utilization of measuring equipment used in a daily practice, not only at the University's laboratories seems very important and it offers our students to carry out the measurements on real power generation units. However, this fact brings problems in the connection with the organisation of the course of studies and employment at the industrial company.

MOBILITIES

An option for prospective university co-operation is represented by students' study stays, students' practical placements and staff mobilities. Our Faculty of Mechanical

Engineering, VSB-Technical University of Ostrava, has participated in a number of programmes in this area.

The collaboration between Universities and praxis is one of the important point in the education cycle. The students have to praxis week at their start on the Universities, but still is there problem, that all the praxis places are only at the national level and the students have no opportunity to speak foreign languages and get to know the other worktechniques.

There are a few possibilities to support this collaboration:

- support of praxis side
The people from the praxis offer for the students the stay at their firm. The praxis has the chance to choose the best students and follow their future study-activity. For the university is disadvantage that we don't know how many people would be by the praxis taken. On the other sides it is necessary to find the support money.
- support of universities side
The people from the universities find the contact to the praxis, offer for the students the stay at various firms. The praxis has the chance to choose the best students and follow their future study-activity. For the university is disadvantage that we don't know how many people would be by the praxis taken and their is necessary some co-ordinations partner. It is also necessary to find the support money.
- support of other organisation (national or international scholarship)
This is the best alternate. The praxis and the universities can plan their future collaboration by the project preparation.

To find the best way for both sides is not so easy.

The TU Ostrava has a lot experiences with the various type of student exchanges.



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OTHER POSSIBILITIES

One of the collaboration possibilities is the EU Project - Maria Curie Fellowships. This type of students stay at the praxis can have a different ways.

One way is to create the Maria Curie Training cities, which mean, the researcher team build fixed stays for student from various countries and the student need to accept the call for these Centres. The centres work at the various fields, e.g. energetics, sludge, environment, etc. Very important for the student is that at this centre work specialists, who speak foreign languages (German, English, Spanish, etc.), the communication with the others researchers and students will be very easy.

Very good experience are with the „between countries collaboration“. At this type of stays will be supported the exchange of student at the specialised regions, e.g. Austria-Czech Republic, Germany-Czech Republic, etc. Our university has so art contact to various countries and the students came regular to the industry in the surrounding of the university and directly on the university.

And at the last we can not forgot the IAEST worldwide student stays. This is the possibility for big among of students to go outside their homecountry. Our university has a lot experience with this type of stays, also the praxis. The students after their 6 to 8 week stay abroad return with a lot of experience and knowledge.

We find very interesting also the preparation of diplomawork abroad.

CONCRETE EXAMPLES

This part of paper would like to offer some comment on two of these, namely KONTACT and SOCRATES/ERASMUS programmes.

Currently our Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, VSB-TUO, has been taking part in the programme SOCRATES/ERASMUS that facilitates mainly student and some staff inter-university exchange programmes. Within this programme, staff visits are short, usually a week, and they comprise about 8 lecture periods. By this date, 21 students went abroad on SOCRATES/ERASMUS programme. We assume 19 students will leave on this programme next year.

In the Program Kontakt we have a collaboration with various countries (Germany, Slovakia, Austria in preparation).

Both these projects have enabled mutual exchange of students and staff. Our experience with the implementation of them is as follows:

- The level of education of students from the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, VSB-TUO, is on a par with universities of the analogous province. In some cases, their profundity is even superior. On the other



hand, it is to be acknowledged that our students lack in some abilities, like team-work, reference and IT research, and have little experience with solving practical problems. They also have some difficulty with foreign language communication.

- These visits abroad develop not only technical but also social abilities of young people. The stays add to the development of their personalities.
- Staff mobilities made the expansion of R&D contacts possible. This mainly concerns the Fifth Framework Programme of EU.

In the program Kontakt we made already exchanges for about 20 people (Students and teaching staff). We organised a lot of conferences.

One important point of the people exchange is transferring of knowledge, e.g. there are 2 near finished Doctor work (one with Dresden university and one with the Vienna university).

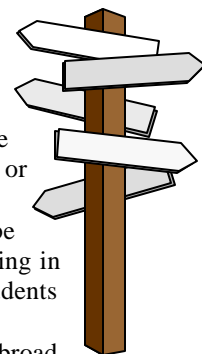
CONCLUSION

The exchange of students in the various programmes should be supported from different parties.

The results of student's exchanges should be presented on various seminars, diplomawork, or dissertations.

After the teaching staff mobilities it would be very helpful to prepare special materials, writing in different languages, for stay preparing our students in the foreign countries.

After this can be the stay on the universities abroad more successful.



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